

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE**

**HAROLD WAYNE NICHOLS,**

**Plaintiff,**

**v.**

**JONATHAN SKRMETTI, et al.,**

**Defendants.**

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**CAPITAL CASE**

**Case No. 3:25-cv-00442**

**JUDGE RICHARDSON**

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**JOINT MOTION FOR LIMITED AGREED PROTECTIVE ORDER**

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Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c), Plaintiff Harold Wayne Nichols and Defendants Attorney General Jonathan Skrmetti, Commissioner Frank Strada, and Warden Kenneth Nelsen<sup>1</sup> jointly move for entry of the attached Agreed Protective Order to facilitate the exchange of information, maintain the confidentiality of discovery material, and preserve judicial and party resources by limiting potential discovery disputes.

The Commissioner recently signed a new lethal injection protocol. The Department of Correction has released a redacted version of the lethal injection protocol to the public, but it has withheld some information in the protocol as confidential. In the interest of judicial economy, Defendants are willing to provide Plaintiff an unredacted copy of the protocol prior to the initiation of discovery under conditions sufficient to protect the confidentiality of the redacted information.

Additionally, the parties believe that the entry of a general protective order that permits them to classify and turn over discoverable documents is beneficial. Entry of the Agreed Protective

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<sup>1</sup> Defendants Commissioner Strada and Warden Nelsen have not been properly served yet. They do not consent to jurisdiction of the Court without proper service.

Order will allow the parties to protect confidential information while enabling them to make timely productions without court intervention. The parties have conferred and have mutually agreed to the terms of the proposed order attached to this motion. However, this agreement does not constitute a waiver of any claims or defenses for either party.

Pursuant to the parties' agreement and for good cause shown, the parties request that the Court enter the attached Agreed Protective Order under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c).

Respectfully submitted,

JONATHAN SKRMETTI  
Attorney General and Reporter

/s/ Cody N. Brandon  
CODY N. BRANDON (BPR# 037504)  
Deputy Attorney General  
Constitutional Defense Division  
P.O. Box 20207  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202-0207  
Off. (615) 532-7400  
Fax (615) 532-4892  
[Cody.Brandon@ag.tn.gov](mailto:Cody.Brandon@ag.tn.gov)  
*Counsel for Defendant*

/s/ Luke Ihnen  
LUKE IHNEN (BPR #035190)  
Federal Defender Services of Eastern TN  
800 S Gay Street  
Suite 2400  
Knoxville, TN 37929-9714  
(865) 637-7979  
[Luke\\_ihn timer@fd.org](mailto:Luke_ihn timer@fd.org)  
*Counsel for Plaintiff*

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on the 21st day of May, 2025, a copy of the foregoing was filed and served via the Court's CM/ECF system on the following:

**Helen Susanne Bales**

Federal Defender Services of Eastern TN, Inc.  
800 S Gay Street  
Suite 2400  
Knoxville, TN 37929-9714  
(865) 637-7979  
Fax: (865) 637-7999  
Email: susanne\_bales@fd.org

**Luke Parker Ihnen**

Federal Defender Services of Eastern Tennessee, Inc.  
Capital Habeas Unit  
800 S. Gay Street  
Suite 2400  
37929  
Knoxville, TN 37929  
865-637-7979  
Fax: 865-637-7999  
Email: luke\_ihnen@fd.org

**Stephen Ferrell**

Federal Defender Services of Eastern Tennessee  
800 S. Gay Street  
Ste 2400  
Knoxville, TN 37929  
865-637-7979  
Fax: 865-637-7999  
Email: stephen\_ferrell@fd.org

/s/ Cody N. Brandon

CODY N. BRANDON

Deputy Attorney General